



# NEWS

## PALM BEACH COUNTY SPORTS COMMISSION

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Bear Lakes Country Club to Host Web.com Tour**

The PGA TOUR will bring its Web.com Tour Pre-Qualifying Tournament to the Bear Lakes Country Club in West Palm Beach from September 9-13, 2013. The tournament will feature 80 professional golfers aspiring to earn their PGA TOUR card. The Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournaments will consist of four qualifying stages – Pre, First, Second and Final – and provide 2014 Web.com Tour membership to all Finalists. The Pre-Qualifying Stage for the Web.com begins in late August and will culminate at the Final Stage in La Quinta, California on December 12-17.

Hosting the 2013 Web.com Pre-Qualifying Tournament is a momentous event for Palm Beach County. In 2013, the PGA Tour significantly changed its qualifying process. Through 2012, the PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament offered 25 PGA Tour cards for the upcoming season, with an additional 25 being awarded to the 25 leading money winners on the Web.com Tour. All Qualifying Tournament finalists would earn



TOUR status; the top 50 and ties on the PGA Tour and all others on the Web.com Tour. That changed with the announcement last year that all 50 Tour cards would come through the Web.com Tour beginning this year, and that the PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament would become the Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament, with all of its Finalists earning a place on the Web.com Tour for the next year. "The Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament is one more signal of the PGA Tour's commitment to the Web.com Tour, and further elevates the Tour as

the path to the PGA Tour," said Web.com Tour president Bill Calfee. "With its similar format and the hundreds of participants who will enter, the Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament will provide lots of drama, storylines and, unfortunately for some, the heartbreak and disappointment we've come to expect year-in and year-out at 'Q-School'".

The tournament will feature 2 days of practice rounds followed by 3-days of dramatic competition. Golfers will encounter 54 holes of stroke play. Future stars of professional golf will be discovered at Bear Lakes Country Club this September.

Bear Lakes Country Club is one of the premier golf venues in Palm Beach County. Two distinctive and exclusive, 18-hole Jack Nicklaus Signature courses offer exceptional play, for both the recreational and competitive golfer. The world-class design of each course offers its own array of challenges and rewards. In 2005, the Lakes course within the Bear Lakes Country Club was voted by Golf Digest as one of the top ten remodeled courses in the United States. Bear Lakes hosted the 1995, 2001, and 2009 PGA TOUR Qualifying School where such players as Boo Weekly, Rickie Fowler, and Troy Merritt have earned their PGA TOUR cards.

In addition to the exciting golf action, this tournament will bring economic benefits to the local community. Golfers and their caddies, family, and friends will stay at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel in West Palm Beach Metrocentre (561) 472-7020 for a week. This will provide a boost in revenues for local restaurants, retail outlets and hotels during the month of September, which is traditionally the slowest month of the year for business. Additionally, hosting the Web.com Tour will boost Palm Beach County's reputation as Florida's Golf Capital.

Inner City Youth Golfers', Inc. will provide volunteer support for this Palm Beach County event. All other details for the Web.com Qualifying Tournaments can be found in the Web.com Tour at [www.PGATOUR.COM/WEBCOM](http://www.PGATOUR.COM/WEBCOM). Bear Lakes Country Club's Director of Golf, Ted Strelec is very pleased that the Palm Beach County Sports Commission is being supportive of this event. Congratulations to Bear Lakes Country Club!